21:Ashkenazi E-4 (no date) 1948 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Bedouin MJ4

owned a few acres of arable land, tilled by riverain fellahîn. These his son inherited, together with the Turkish title. It was one of the boldest strokes of Ottoman make-believe, but it could not give the nomad Seyh the remotest resemblance to a Turkish Effendi.[41]

We have to conclude that there is no one paramount chief among the 'Anazah tribes. The two most important 'Anazah chieftains are Fawwâz Ebn Sa'lân and Fahad Ebn Haddal on the borders of 'Irak and the Syrian desert respectively.[42]

STATISTICS

We have little knowledge about their numbers in ancient times. We may relate what Burckhardt says when he travelled amongst them:

> From some Damascus pedlars, who had passed their whole lives among the Bedouins, I learned particulars which induce me to state the force of the Aenese tribes alone mentioned (viz: El Besher) (their brethren in Nedjed not included) at about ten thousand horsemen, and perhaps ninety or one hundred thousand camel-riders; a number rather over than under rated.[43]

And elsewhere he states:

> To detail all their minor branches or yowayeha, would be to give an index of all their families, every large family with its relations constituting a small tribe in itself. It is difficult to ascertain the numbers of each tribe, from a prejudice which forbids them to count the horsemen; as they believe like the eastern merchants, that whoever knows the exact amount of his wealth may soon expect to lose part of it.[44]

Modern travellers have checked and left us more particulars with regard to statistics of the 'Anazah tribes. The whole tribe was estimated by Lady Anne Blunt, in 1879, as follows: 1. Fedân—4,000 tents; 2. Sebâa—4,000 tents; 3. Ibn Háddal—4,000 tents; 4. Hesénneh—500 tents; 5. Roála or Jelâas—12,000 tents; 6. Wélled Ali—3,000 tents; 7. Sirhán—?; 8 and 9. Erfuddi and Towf—?.[45] Habib Chiha estimated them at 97,000 tents.[46] During the First World War (1914-1918) the 'Anazah of Syria were estimated by the Intel-

41 *Letters of Gertrude Bell*, p. 41.

42 Cf. Rawan, *The Black Tents of Arabia*, pp. 115-116. Fawwâz Ebn Sa'lân became head chief of the ar-Rwala tribe and its satellites at the death of the Emir Nuri Eben Sa'lân, his grandfather, which occurred July 1, 1942 (*Palestine Post*, July 3, 1942).

43 Burckhardt, *Notes on the Bedouins and Wahabys*, vol. 1, pp. 8-9.

44 *Ibid.*

45 Anne Blunt, *The Bedouins of the Euphrates*, pp. 190-192; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, vol. 1, p. 346.

46 Habib Chiha, *La province de Baghdad; son passé, son présent, son avenir . . . et une étude inédite sur les tribus nomades de la Mésopotamie* (Cairo, 1908), p. 243.

21:Ashkenazi E-4 (no date) 1948 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Bedouin MJ4

ligence reports of the British Army at 70,000 souls.[47] According to Gertrude Bell, /61/

the 'Anizah in the Syrian desert and Jazirah may amount to a quarter of a million souls; the computation, it must be understood, is based on the slenderest data, no attempt to number the tents of the Bedouins having been so much as proposed.[48]

The number of the nomads in Syria were estimated in 1930 by the French authorities to be 279,898, that live and migrate on an area of 120,000 square kilometres.[49] According to *Annuaire du monde Musulman* (1929), the 'Anazah tribes of Syria are estimated to be the following: (1) the ar-Rwala—14,000 souls, united with the Muhallaf—6,000; the Wuld 'Ali—7,000; the al-Fed'an—14,000 (13 clans); as-Sba'a—7,000 (3 clans).[50] According to Commandant Victor Müller, total tents of the 'Anazah tribes in Syria are estimated by him to be 11,100 (1931).[51] According to official estimates of the French authorities in Syria in the year 1930 there were 9,010 tents.[52] According to official estimates of the said authorities the Bedouins in Syria were estimated in the year 1926 to be 250,000 in rough numbers;[53] in the year 1927, 200,000 souls.[54] In the year 1928, we have a more detailed enumeration of the Bedouin population inhabiting the Syrian desert and the borders of the tilled country; and in the year 1929, it is estimated at 125,000 pure nomads and 100,000 semi-nomads.[55] Müller adds statistics that clarify the location of the Bedouins in Syria: Pure nomads—13,950; Mouvance of Deyr az-Zor[56]—13,850; Mouvance of Alleppo—7,835 souls; Mouvance of Damascus—5,400 souls; Gebel ad-Drus—1,000 souls; together a total of 41,435 tents, with a population of between 250,000 to 300,000.[57] The *Report* of the Commission entrusted by the Council of the League of Nations with the study of the frontier between Syria and 'Irak, published in the year 1932, mentions the following important figures:

the Aniza Fid'an (3,000 to 4,000 tents), who in summer are to be found sometimes in the Alleppo district and sometimes in northern part of the Euphrates valley;

47 *The Military Handbook, etc.*, p. 53.
48 *Review of the Civil Administration of Mesopotamia*, p. 41.
49 *Rapport sur la situation de la Syrie et du Liban* (1930), p. 176.
50 Massignon, *Annuaire du monde musulman*, p. 438.
51 Müller, *En Syrie avec les Bédouins*, pp. 147-149.
52 *Les tribus nomades et semi-nomades, etc.*, pp. 19-33.
53 *Rapport sur la situation de la Syrie et du Liban* (1926), p. 23.
54 *Idem* (1927), p. 14.
55 *Idem* (1929), p. 76.
56 Deyr az-Zôr: town and sanjaq, Syria; Arabic *L.*
57 Müller, *En Syrie avec les Bédouins*, p. 149.

21:Ashkenazi E-4 (no date) 1948 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Bedouin MJ4

161

the Sba (3,000 tents), who winter to the east of the Jebel Aniza and advance as far as the Gaara region itself; and the Ruwalla (4,000 tents).[58]

No census was made among the Bedouins and it is clear that real statistics are lacking nowdays.

619
361

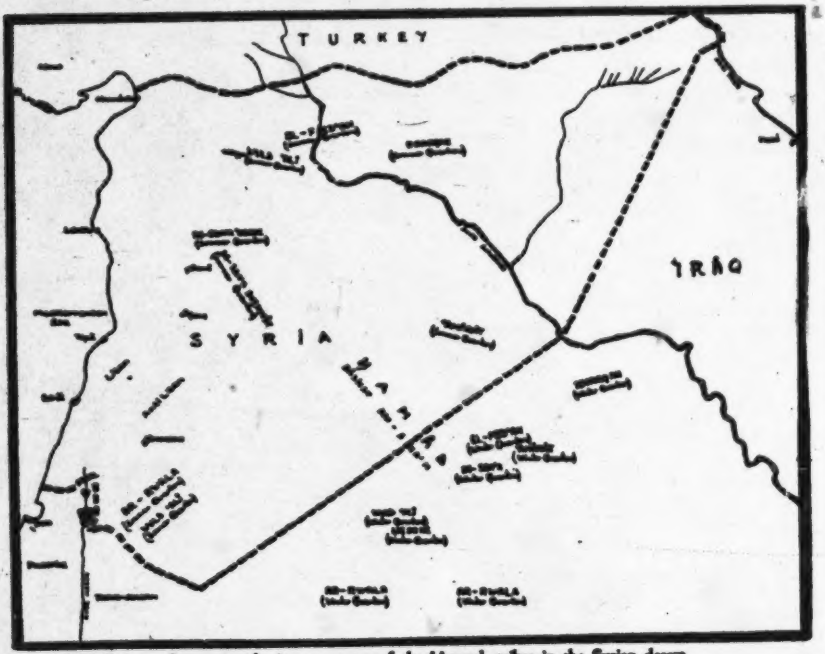

FIG. 1. Summer and winter quarters of the 'Anezah tribes in the Syrian desert.

MIGRATION PROBLEMS

221

At the present time the district covered by their wanderings include the whole Syrian plain, and reaches to the north as far as the latitude of Aleppo, and they are also found in the Beka'a,[59] to the south as far as the Sammâr hills, and east-

58 *Report of the Commission Entrusted by the Council, etc.*, p. 27.

59 Cf. L. Dubertret and J. Weulersse, *Manuel de géographie: Syrie, Liban et Proche Orient* (Beyrouth, 1940), part 1: "La péninsule Arabique," pp. 15-16.